WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

VRS in SAIL

*383. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to right-size the workforce of Steel Authority of India through Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);

(b) if so, the response received, so far;

(c) whether Government also propose to reduce the age of superannuation; and

(d) if so, by when this is going to be announced alongwith other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the two voluntary retirement schemes introduced by SAIL in 1998 and 1999,5,975 and 13,617 employees respectively have been separated. Under the VRS 2001, which is closing on 15.9.2001, 3052 employees have been granted VR upto 31.7.2001.

(c) and (d) Government has received no such proposal from the Board of Directors of SAIL.

Haul of spurious drugs

*384. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases wherein a big haul of spurious drugs has been unearthed during the last one year;

(b) the number of persons apprehended for manufacturing and trading of spurious drugs; and

(c) the special measures taken to curb the spurious drugs trade in the country?